September 27, 2006

Gary Hill Director of Community Development Gemological Institute of America 5345 Armada Drive Carlsbad, CA 92008

Dear Gary,

On behalf of the Carlsbad City Council, I wish to thank the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) for printing 6,000 copies of the *Fast Facts 101* book used in our Carlsbad CityStuff curriculum. GIA's generosity is greatly appreciated by the City.

This marks the third time that GIA has printed *Fast Facts 101*. Your initial support enabled CityStuff to get off the ground in 2002; the continued support has helped introduce hundreds of third-graders and their parents to their Carlsbad City government.

The book also helps families and the local schools bond with the City. With this next printing, we plan to explore the possibilities of making greater use of this fun book; perhaps distributing to the Citizens' Academy graduates, volunteers and the Children's Library patrons.

CityStuff recently earned a League of California Cities Helen Putnam Award for Excellence for engaging youth in city government. The award recognizes collaborative efforts between cities and other agencies to inform and engage youth about city issues and their community. CityStuff's partnership among the City, Junior Achievement, three public school districts, the business community and general public is a shining example of this collaborative effort. I believe that it is programs such as CityStuff and partners such as GIA that go a long way toward making the connections ... and making the connections count.

Thanks to organizations such as GIA and community-minded leaders such as you, Carlsbad retains that sense of civic responsibility and pride in what we can accomplish together. We would like to formally thank GIA for its donation at an upcoming City Council meeting. Please call Marilyn Strong at 434-2830 to arrange a date that would be convenient for you to attend.

Sincerely.

OLAUDE A. "BUD" LEWIS

Mayor

mhs